

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 AGR-20 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20 SP-03 IGA-02 DRC-01

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R 221501Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5771

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ADNA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: OPIUM POPPY CONTROLS

SUMMARY: IN A ONE HOUR MEETING ON AUGUST 21 BETWEEN USAID DIRECTOR TONER AND IZZET BAYKAL, UNDERSECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, THE LATTER RAISED THE SUBJECT OF OPIUM POPPY CONTROLS. MAJOR POINTS MADE BY BAYKAL FOLLOW: END SUMMARY.

1. WITHIN THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR POPPYCONTROLS NOW LIES WITH THE MINISTRY OF TRADE AND COMMERCE, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATIONS OF THE SOIL PRODUCTS OFFICE (TMO). THE MINISTER IS FEHIM ADAK (NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY). IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO GET ANY IDEAS THE USG HAS ON CONTROLS TO HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. BAYKAL UNDERSTANDS THAT TMO WILL ISSUE LICENSES TO FARMERS IN SEVEN PROVINCES DURING LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER, WHICH WILL PERMIT FARMERS TO BEGIN PLANTING IN EARLY OCTOBER.

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3. GIVEN PRESENT CLIMATE OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS, GOT MAY NOW BE FAR MORE WILLING THAN BEFORE TO TALK OF SHARP LIMITATIONS IN NUMBER OF GROWERS FOR THIS YEAR.

4. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION WITHIN GOT OF DRY STRAW PROCESSING APPROACH, WHICH WOULD PERMIT FARMERS TO RETAIN SEEDS FOR OIL AND WOULD ALSO PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OF PROCESSING PLANT IN AFYON. BAYKAL SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IF GOT ELECTS TO TAKE THIS ROUTE, DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN BEFORE LICENSES ARE ISSUED NEXT MONTH. OTHERWISE, GOT MIGHT BE ACCUSED BY FARMERS OF CHANGING GROUND RULES AFTER CROPS PLANTED.

5. AGRICULTURE MINISTRY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT REGARD BRACTEATUM AS REALISTIC SHORT-TERM OPTION. BAYKAL BELIEVES LENGTHY PERIOD OF FIELD TESTING ON STATE FARMS WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE ANY DECISION ON FUTURE UTILIZATION OF BRACTEATUM.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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